

Registration

Becoming a Nurse in Ontario: For Internationally Educated Nurses



COLLEGE OF NURSES
OF ONTARIO
ORDRE DES INFIRMIÈRES
ET INFIRMIERS DE L'ONTARIO

THE STANDARD OF CARE.

Introduction

As the provincial regulatory body, the College of Nurses of Ontario (CNO) is responsible for protecting the public's right to quality nursing services. The College sets requirements to enter the profession, establishes and enforces standards of nursing practice, assures the quality of practice of the profession and the continuing competence of nurses, and responds to concerns about nursing practice.

Becoming a nurse in Ontario

Nursing is a regulated health profession in Ontario. To practise as a nurse, or use the titles of nurse, Registered Nurse (RN), Registered Practical Nurse (RPN) or Nurse Practitioner (NP) in Ontario, you must hold a valid Certificate of Registration with the College. To be eligible for registration, applicants must meet all these requirements.

1. Completion of an acceptable nursing or practical nursing program.
2. Evidence of recent safe nursing practice.
3. Pass the Canadian Registered Nurse Examination (CRNE) or the Canadian Practical Registered Nurse Examination (CPRNE). Once you have met the academic requirements, you will be eligible to write these exams.
4. Evidence of written and spoken fluency in English or French.
5. Registration or eligibility for registration in the jurisdiction where you completed your nursing program.
6. Proof of Canadian citizenship, permanent Canadian residency documents or authorization under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* (Canada).

7. Suitability to practise, includes:
 - whether your nursing registration has ever been denied, revoked, suspended, restricted, surrendered or encumbered;
 - if you are currently under investigation or involved in proceedings for professional misconduct, incompetence or incapacity;
 - if you have any criminal convictions;
 - if you have an offence under the *Controlled Drugs and Substance Act* (Canada) or the *Food and Drug Act* (Canada); and
 - if you have any physical or mental illness that may affect your ability to practice.

Registration guide

For an in-depth explanation of each requirement, please see the interactive Guide for Internationally Educated Nurses at www.cno.org. This online guide also provides important information on registration, nursing practice, examinations, language requirements, application packages and more. Applicants can assess their current skills and education, and determine if any additional education is required. The easy-to-use guide provides relevant, up-to-date information directed at the unique needs of internationally educated applicants.

Please note that the information provided in the guide does not replace or substitute for any of the steps for registration. Also, more up-to-date information or materials may be available online.

For more information

To learn more, contact the College of Nurses of Ontario at:

E-mail: cno@cnomail.org

Tel.: 416 928-0900

Toll-free in Ontario: 1 800 387-5526

Fax: 416 928-6507

Website: www.cno.org

Resources**CARE Centre for Internationally Educated Nurses**

The CARE Centre is an organization that helps nurses educated outside of Canada to become registered in Ontario. Through the CARE Centre, you can upgrade your skills and plan your career.

To learn more, see CARE's website at www.care4nurses.org or e-mail info@care4nurses.org.

Access Centre for Internationally Educated Professionals

This resource helps internationally educated health professionals living in Ontario by providing information, advice and support on the process of seeking eligibility for professional practice in Ontario.

For more information, visit www.HealthForceOntario.ca.